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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1221 A.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24.3.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

No. 787-A. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 12th
• March 1877, No. 1,144 :—

Read the following :—

From J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, Ramnad, to
W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated Kamuthi, 29th February
1877, No. 67.—

IN anticipation of the sanction of the Reghunatha-Cauveri project, I have the honor to bring to your notice the enormous disproportion which you may have noticed in the late weekly reports in the sexes of the persons seeking relief. With such a multitude of women whom distress has driven from their homes, it is not merely difficult to keep order, but it is almost impossible to find carrying labor enough for them. We are bound by our orders to accept all the persons who come for labor having no other means of subsistence, and we are also required to exact a fair task-work. In consequence of this, and for the speedier execution of the work, I wish to be instructed whether I may not admit upon the channel the able-bodied men who have been recently thrown out of employment by the stoppage of all other work upon the estate and are now suffering great distress, but will not accept the famine rates, and pay these men by the results. Each of these men will work his four or five cubic yards of excavation in the day; whereas a feeble cooly, taking his 2 Annas wage, hardly turns over more than two cubic yards, which it is the appointed task-work of one woman to carry off. By my arrangement each able-bodied digger would give work to at least two women and a child, and the disproportion is then reduced and labor found for the women.

2. I can give you no estimate whatever now of the numbers whom this work will attract. As I go from village to village, or watch the gatherings at the weekly fairs, I can see a perceptible change for the worse in the general physique of the village people, while the starved beggars are becoming more clamorous. But with all this distress, I also hear their continually reiterated aversion to leaving their homes for any distant labor other than Colombo, least of all for the tank-work of another, if not a rival village. On the other hand there is a sort of

N.B.—Sanction has just been received. greatness attaching to the re-modelling of an ancient project like the Reghunatha-Cauveri, which seems to have attracted attention, as I am often asked by wanderers whether that work is going on.

3. I earnestly trust that my proposal in this letter may be submitted for the favorable consideration of the Government and the Court of Wards, not only in view of the interests of the estate, which it so much concerns that this work should be completed, and that the able-bodied ryots should not be reduced to skeletons before they are admitted on the roll of famine relief, but for the sake of a satisfactory solution of the problem how to provide work for all. I am prepared to carry out all the Government Orders and wishes to their furthest extent, and I perfectly understand that the work now sanctioned is to be a famine relief work, and conducted solely on these principles; but the Government has also invited the local officers to express their own views when they consider that there is adequate cause for the least departure from their strict application.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1877.*

No. 130.

SUBMITTED for favorable consideration of the Board of Revenue. The women and children cannot work alone.

MADURA,
4th March 1877.

(Signed) W. McQUIHAE,
Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 23rd February 1877, Revenue Department, No. 795-A.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating telegram from Collector of Madura stating that Ramnad Estate Funds are exhausted and that State Relief Works have been commenced in anticipation of sanction.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 27th February 1877, Revenue Department, No. 848-A.

ABSTRACT.—Recording telegram from Collector of Madura stating that Ragoonada Cauvery and other sanctioned works must be State Relief Works open to all in consequence of distress increasing in South Ramnad, Madura.

THE Special Assistant Collector in charge of the Ramnad Estate brings to notice the great preponderance of women amongst those resorting to relief works, and states that he will be unable to employ them profitably on the Ragunatha-Cauveri channel unless he is allowed to employ the able-bodied men, who refuse to accept the famine rate of wages, and pay them by the piece. The proposal is inadmissible under the terms of G.Os., dated 31st January 1877, No. 329, and 3rd February 1877, No. 390, if the work is to be treated in every respect as a relief work, but the Court are averse to turning away the able-bodied ryots until they have been reduced to starvation point; and as the estate will not be able to provide any other work for its laborers, it seems only fair to admit and pay enhanced wages to those who are able and willing to execute more than the ordinary task, by which the estate will benefit in the speedier and cheaper completion of the work, whilst the laborers will be maintained in condition. It seems necessary that the restoration of the channel should be treated as a relief work, because from the telegrams embodied in the Government Orders read above it appears that distress is increasing and no other work is equally suitable for the employment of all comers; and secondly, that funds must be advanced temporarily by Government. It might be possible, however, to treat one section of the channel exceptionally and allow piece-work thereon. If this cannot be permitted, the Collector must take up some of the subsidiary works connected with the main channel for the employment of the able-bodied laborers, defraying the cost from current collections, which it is presumed will suffice for this limited purpose.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1877.*

No. 787:B. ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1877,*No. 1,221-A.

Irrigation, No. 7.

In G.O. of the 16th February, No. 714, the Government sanctioned the immediate commencement of the

scheme for the restoration of the Ragunatha Caveri channel as a relief-work at the cost of the Ramnad Estate.

2. On the 19th idem the Collector of Madura telegraphed that the Estate funds were exhausted. This was the day after his endorsement forwarding Mr. Lee-Warner's letter of the 17th February, No. 49, to the Revenue Board was written, in which he recommended that works then in progress should be stopped and irrigation repairs be commenced as State relief-works.

3. The Board, in forwarding his endorsement to Government, recommended the postponement of the collection of the whole of the peshkush of the Zemindari for the current year, in order to admit of the restoration of the Ragunatha Caveri and other works in the Estate being carried out, and in G.O. of the 26th February 1877, No. 835, this course was sanctioned.

4. The Board now forward a letter from Mr. Lee-Warner to the Collector of Madura, dated February 20th, in which he asks permission to employ all the able-bodied male laborers who come to him for employment, but will not work at famine rates, on piece-work, in the event of the channel restoration being sanctioned, as he will thus be able to find work for the disproportionately large number of women who at present seek relief. The Board are disposed to support the proposal, and remark that it seems necessary to treat the restoration of the channel as a relief-work and to advance funds for its execution temporarily. They also suggest that one section of the channel should be carried out by piece-work, and the rest, presumably, by task-work; and if this is impracticable, they consider that the Collector must take up some of the subsidiary works connected with the main channel.

5. The Government observe that the main channel has been sanctioned as a relief-work, that Estate funds are, or ought to be, available for its execution out of the suspended peshkush, and, that the Board's suggestion to have piece-work on one section of the main channel and task-work on the rest does not commend itself to them. They resolve, however, to exempt the main channel from the operation of G.O. of the 31st January, Nos. 329 and 330, Financial Department, and to sanction its being carried out by piece-work.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Court of Wards.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Court of Wards.
Dated 12th March 1877

19 1144

Proceedings of the Madras
Government, Revenue Department
dated 27 February 1877 CP 848. A
recording telegram from the same
officer stating that Ragoonatha
Cannery and other sanctioned
works must be state Relief works
open to all, in consequence of
distress

distress

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 二、
 三、
 四、
 五、
 六、
 七、

SECRET

100

David L. Davis

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[illegible]

100-1575

SECRET

Regarding these points in the Central Pacific:

- Taking samples of blood from the heart of a dead specimen for analysis to determine the role of blood flow in operation of G.O. after death.
- In 1977, the 350 and 400 Exposed Experiment, and to some extent, effects of a

distress increasing in South Ram-
nad, Madras.

Read also:-

Feb 7

Board's J.R.
No. 2408.

From

J. Lee Warner Esq.

Special Assistant Collector
Ramanad

To W. McLauchlan Esquire
Collector of Madras

Sir,

In anticipation
of the sanction of the Raman-
nad Farmer's Project, I have
the honor to bring to your notice
the enormous disproportion
which you may have noticed
in the late weekly reports, in the
sufferings of the persons seeking re-
lief. With such a multitude
of women, whom distress has
driven from their homes, it is

not

merely difficult to keep order,
but it is almost impossible to
find carrying labour enough
for them. We are bound by our
orders to accept all the persons
who come for labour having no
other means of subsistence, and
we are also required to pay a
fair task work. In consequence
of this, and for the speedy ex-
ecution of the work, I wish
to be understood to request I may
not admit upon the channel the
able bodied men, who have been
recently thrown out of employment
by the stoppage of all other work
upon the estate, and are now suffer-
ing great distress, but will not
accept the famine rates, and pay
these men by the results. Each of
these men will work his 4 or 5 acres
yards

yards of excavation in the day;
whereas a feeble coolie, taking
his 2 annas wage hardly
turns over more than 2 cubic
yards, which it is the appoint-
ed task work of one woman
to carry off. By my arrange-
ment each able bodied digger
would give work to at least
2 women and a child; and
the disproportion is then ~~reduced~~
and labour found for the women.

2. I can give you
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the number, whom this work
will attract. As I go from
village to village, or watch the
gatherings at the weekly fair,
I can see a perceptible change
for the worse in the general
physique

1240
physique of the village people,
while the starved beggars are be-
coming more clamorous. But with
all this distress, I also hear their
continually reiterated aversion
to leaving their homes for any dis-
tant labour other than Colombo,
least of all for the task work
of another, if not, a rival village.
On the other hand there is a sort
of quietness attaching to the re-
modelling of an ancient project
like the Raghunatha Cauveri, which
seems to have attracted attention,
as I am often asked by wanderers
whether that work is going on.

et. B. Santhini has
just been received.

3. I earnestly trust that
my proposal in this letter may
be submitted for the favorable
consideration of the Government
and

and the Court of Wards not only
in view of the interests of the
estate, which it so much con-
cerns that this work should be
completed, and that the able
bodied agents should not be
reduced to skeletons before
they are admitted on the roll
of famine relief; but for the
sake of a satisfactory solu-
tion of the problem how to
provide work for all; I am
prepared to carry out all the
Government orders and work
so far as their furthest extent,
and I perfectly understand
that the work now sanction-
ed is to be a famine relief
work, and conducted solely
on these principles: but the
Government

Government has also invited
the local officers to express their
own views when they consider
that there is adequate cause
for the least departure from their
strict application. I have &c.
Special Dist Collector's Office, Camp Ramnagar
28 February 1877 } J. K. Warner
Special Dist Collector
(True copy)

ctd 130. Submitted for
favorable consideration of the
Board of Revenue. The women
and children cannot work alone.
District Office } 187 W. Mc Lachlan
4 March 1877 } Collector

The Special Commissioner
has collected in charge of the
Princed Estate bring to notice
the great preponderance of women
amongst

amongst those resorting to re-
lief works and states that he
will be unable to employ them
profitably on the Ragumatta
Panney Channel unless he is
allowed to employ the able
bodied men, who refuse to
accept the famine rates of
wages, and pay them by the
piece. The proposal is in-
admissible under the terms
of G. O. dated 31st January
1877 Ch. 329 and 3rd February
1877 Ch. 390 if the work is to
be treated in every respect
as a relief work, but the Court
are averse to turning away the
able bodied people until they
have been reduced to starvation
point and the estate will
not

not be able to provide any
other work for its laborers, it
seems only fair to admit and
pay enhanced wages to those
who are able and willing to
execute more than the ordinary
task, by which the estate will
benefit in the speed and cheap-
ness of completion of the work,
whilst the laborers will be
maintained in condition. It
seems necessary that the restora-
tion of the channel should be
treated as a relief work because
from the telegram embodied
in the G. O. read above it
appears that distress is in-
creasing and no other work
is equally suitable for the
employment

Revenue Dept.

xxx To meet the restoration of the channel & its execution
which work it to advance funds for the same
temporarily - They also suggest that one section
of the channel shall be covered off by piece work
the rest proportionally by task work - If this is
impracticable ^{they consider} the Collector to take up
some of the entire cost which connected with the
piece channel paying for his quarters you must allow him
the G.O. draw that the main channel has less
dangers as a rule - work, that funds are
available for it except outside of the
proposed bushwork, & that the R.D. suggestion
to turn piece work as a section on a portion
of the main channel + task work on the rest
can not connect itself to them - ^{which you}
~~I propose to have the same to get building~~
~~It is tied to the main channel & is a continuation of it~~
~~It cannot be done~~. They resolve, however, to
employ the Channel from the operation of
the G.O. & to submit its highest bid
lastly piece work)
11/2/77
31/4/Jan? P. 329 & 330 F.D.

17-3-77 224-3-77

Proceedings of the
Commissioner of the
Madras District
of the 12th March 1877
No 12-2-77
No 13-1-77
W. H. H. H. H.

Proceedings of the
Commissioner of the
Madras District
of the 12th March 1877
No 12-2-77
No 13-1-77
W. H. H. H. H.

Recd. 1977 224
224/424

In G.O. of the 18th Feb. 1877 No. 714 of the Govt. sanctioned
the immediate commencement of the scheme for the
restoration of the Raghunatha Caveri channel as
a relief work, etc. the evening the Raminad Estate
2. On the 19th Idem the Collector of Madras telegraphed that
the Estate funds were exhausted. This was the day after
his endorsement forwarding M. L. Lee
No. 49 to the Madras Govt. in which he recommended
that unless the Government stopped the expenditure
he would be compelled to stop the work (N.P. No. 18) in forwarding
his endorsement to Govt. recommending the postponement of
the execution of the whole of the Raminad Estate for the present
In G.O. of the 28th Feb. 1877 No. 224-3-77 this course
has been sanctioned.
The Madras Govt. has sanctioned the scheme for the
restoration of the Raghunatha Caveri channel as a relief work, etc.
the evening the Raminad Estate
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funds were exhausted. This was the day after his endorsement forwarding M. L. Lee
No. 49 to the Madras Govt. in which he recommended that unless the Government
stopped the expenditure he would be compelled to stop the work (N.P. No. 18) in forwarding
his endorsement to Govt. recommending the postponement of the execution of the whole of the
Raminad Estate for the present. In G.O. of the 28th Feb. 1877 No. 224-3-77 this course
has been sanctioned.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read by the Court of
Wards dated 12th March 1877 on endorsement
of the collector of Madras dtd 4th
March 1877 No 130 on letter from Special
Assistant Collector dtd 28 February 1877
No 61 regarding the speedy execution of
certain works referred to by him

Order thereon 24th March 1877 No 1221-77

In G.O. of the 16th February
No 414 the Government sanctioned the
immediate commencement of the scheme
for the restoration of the Raghunatha
Caveri channel as a relief work at the
cost of the Raminad Estate.

On the 19th Idem the Collector
of Madras telegraphed that the Estate
funds were exhausted. This was the day
after his endorsement forwarding M. L.
Lee

Lee Warner's letter of the 17th February
No 49 to the Revenue Board was writ-
ten in which he recommended that works
then in progress should be stopped and
irrigation repairs be commenced as State
Relief works.

3. The Board in forwarding his
endorsement to Government recommended
the postponement of the collection of
the whole of the Peshkush of the Zemindary
for the current year and in G.O. of the 26th
February 1877 No 835 this order was sanc-
tioned.

in order to admit
of the restoration
of the Ragnath
Caves & other
temples in the State
being laid out.

4. The Board now forwarded a letter
from Mr Lee Warner to the Collector of
Madras dated February 20th, in which
he asked permission to employ all the able-
bodied male laborers who come to him
for employment but will not work at
peasants rates, on piece work, in the event
of the channel restoration being sanctioned
as he will thus be able to find work for
the disproportionately large number of
workmen who at present seek relief. The
Board

Board are disposed to support the proposal,
and remark that it seems necessary to treat
the restoration of the channel as a relief
work and to advance funds for its execution
temporarily. They also suggest that one sec-
tion of the channel should be carried
out by piece work, and the rest presumably
by task work - and if this is impracticable
they consider that the Collector must take
up some of the subsidiary works connected
with the main channel.

5. The Government observe that
the main channel has been sanctioned
as a relief work, that Estate funds are,
or ought to be, available for its execu-
tion out of the suspended Peshkush,
and that the Board's suggestion
to have piece work on one section of
the main channel and task work
on the rest does not commend it-
self to them, while they disapprove
of

of the commencement of the subsidiary
~~work until the main channel is suf-~~
~~ficiently restored to be connected with~~
~~them.~~ They resolve, however, to exempt
the main channel from the operation
of G.O. of the ^{31st July 1874 No. 32, & 250} ~~5th February 1874 No. 20~~
and to sanction its being carried out
by piece work.

H. L. (Genl Contract)
A. L. G. (Genl Contract)
Secy to Govt

In Secy The Court of Wards, on 29 Decr
21 the Court of Wards
the Court of Wards

End. H. L.